



**U.S. Department of Justice
U.S. Attorney's Office
Western District of Texas**

Johnny Sutton, U.S. Attorney

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**FORMER METHODIST PASTOR SENTENCED TO FEDERAL PRISON
ON CHILD PORNOGRAPHY CHARGE**

(WACO, TEXAS) United States Attorney **Johnny Sutton** announced today 56-year-old **JAMES ROY JONES**, former pastor of the First United Methodist Church in Clifton, Texas, was sentenced to 46 months in federal prison for knowingly possessing ten or more images of child pornography.

In addition to the prison term, United States District Judge Walter S. Smith, Jr. ordered that Jones pay a \$1,000 fine and be placed under supervised release for a period of 3 years after completing his prison term. On February 27, 2003, Jones pled guilty to the charge. He admitted that on March 22, 2002, he was in possession of photographic images that depicted child pornography which had been shipped and transported in interstate commerce. Jones also admitted that since the Summer of 2001, he collected and traded child pornography via the Internet.

On March 22, 2002, agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation executed search warrants on the parsonage and Jones' office. They discovered numerous movie files and images depicting child pornography on Jones' computer.

"This office will continue to prosecute all child pornography and child exploitation cases brought to us. Individuals who commit such violations will be held accountable for their intolerable actions," stated Sutton.

Special agents with the Federal Bureau of Investigation and United States Customs Service investigated this matter. It was prosecuted for the government by Assistant U.S. Attorney Greg Gloff.

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